

A1
hit, by substituting at least one amino acid residue thereof with at least one amino acid residue of said sample protein to thereby create a modified framework protein.

A2
11. (Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the modified framework protein has greater stability than said sample protein.

A3
12. (Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the modified framework protein has increased structural similarity to said sample protein.

A4
14. (Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the sample protein is a cytokine.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at step (iii) the hits are ranked according to structural similarity with said sample protein.

17. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein searching at step (iii) includes:

- (a) identification of said hits by clique detection;
- (b) filtering of said hits identified at step (a).

18. (Amended) A modified framework protein produced according to the method of claim 9.

A5
23. (Amended) The engineered protein of claim 20, wherein said another protein is a cytokine.